

true ending in 1848. But the "time, and times, and half a time" began earlier than this. The year 606 is the period of the *ecclesiastical* constitution of the beast, or the time when the dragon gave him his authority. His civil constitution dates 75 years earlier, or from 531, when the Justinian code was published; and this was the real beginning of the 1260 years. The reign of the beast ought, then, to have terminated about the year 1791, or two years earlier or later,—*and so it did!* The resurrection of the *two witnesses* (or civil and religious democracy,) which were slain by Louis the Fourteenth, took place in 1789, or at the period of the French revolution, and this was the first time any successful opposition was made to the Papal power. Then the judgment began to sit, and the civil dominion of the Pope was taken away, to be "consumed and destroyed unto the end." And as 75 years elapsed between the establishment of the Imperial and Papal power of the beast, so 75 years must elapse between his civil and ecclesiastical destruction. This period is represented by the seven vials, the mission of which is to pour chastisement on the beast and his followers till at the end the whole will meet with sudden and signal destruction. It is a mistake to suppose that the 1260 years, limits the *existence* of the beast—it merely limits his power. The full term of his political and ecclesiastical existence is 1335 years, and this terminates in 1866, or about fifteen years from this period. But what a number of awful events must take place in that short time; what revolutions, and strife, and bloodshed must be witnessed on the Continent, and in many parts of Asia! No wonder that the political sky is black and lowering, charged as it is with the elements of a storm, which, for tremendous force and severity, has never been equalled. The people of the present age have come to the very border of a thrilling epoch, and they know it not. The newspaper press laughs at the cry of war which has risen on every hand. It points to the progress of railways and electric